

PRESS RELEASE

## **Hamad bin Khalifa University Launches Counselors Guidebook at Doha Counselors Day**

Doha, October 9, 2013 – Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU) hosted its annual Doha Counselors Day (DCD) on October 8th at the HBKU Student Center. DCD aims to provide counselors and other school administrators in Qatar with in-depth information and strategic suggestions regarding the admissions process for HBKU partner universities, with a particular focus on how they can support students to be successful in preparing for the future.

As HBKU seeks to raise awareness of the value of counseling, and more specifically university advising; the event is also meant to be an important networking opportunity for counselors and admissions professionals to meet and share best practices.

Dr. Khalid Al- Khanji, Vice President of Student Affairs at HBKU said: “Today's school counselors are vital members of the education sector and valuable partners to university admission teams, providing guidance to help students achieve academic success through their careful planning and advanced knowledge of the university admissions process.”

More than 90 counselors from both independent and private schools were in attendance this year. DCD is the kickoff event in a series of upcoming events planned for counselors and other school administrators this academic year. The HBKU Student Affairs team will also design and deliver several workshops and programs aimed for schools administrators, counselors and principals. The goal of these workshops is to provide counselors with information about HBKU partner universities in addition to tools to help them better advise students applying to these universities. The workshops will start this fall, and will run throughout the academic year, each focusing on a different topic and areas where students face challenges.

Aisha Al Meer, Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator at HBKU said: “HBKU organizes these programs for counselors to empower them in their roles within schools, and provide them with insight as to how they can best support students during this important stage in their life.”

Counselors attending this year's event also witnessed the launch of HBKU's most recent publication “Preparing Students for University: A Counselors Guide to Assist Students”. The publication provides school counselors with essential information about the university

admissions process for HBKU partner universities, and covers a range of topics such as testing, early college awareness, career advising, and detailed timelines that will provide counselors with a comprehensive sense of the process for guiding students and parents. As part of the day's program, the HBKU Student Affairs team also hosted a workshop to provide counselors with deeper understanding as to how this publication will help them in their work with students and their families.

Fatma Muhammad Karami, Academic Counselor, Rawda Bint Jassim School said: "Counselors Day is very important for both schools and universities. We meet other academic counselors from different schools; those who administer standardized tests, and we discuss admissions requirements for universities. This is very important to the development of students' skills as we work on their strengths and areas for improvement in order to prepare them to be a successful generation in the future."

The event comes following a successful Discover Education City hosted by HBKU earlier this month. Many students and their parents visited the two-day fair and met with representatives of universities in Education City.

Discover Education City, Doha Counselors Day and the counselors' workshops are all part of HBKU Student Services' larger calendar of events aimed at spreading awareness on the importance of preparing for university among students, parents and counselors alike. For more information about upcoming programs, please contact: [outreach@qf.org.qa](mailto:outreach@qf.org.qa) or call 4454 0272

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